

opportunity to put into the millstream the mechanics on this petition issue, so my amendment merely changes the date from 1991 to 1992. It does not address any other part of the bill. I have talked to Senator Withem and he indicated to me that he really had no problem with this, so with those remarks, Mr. President, I would ask for the adoption of my amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion, Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. President, Senator Haberman is correct. He and I visited about this and I really have no problems with it. I'm probably going to support it. I will support it, no probably about it. On General File we made...there are two operative dates here that we're talking about, about this affiliation process. There is a date by which the freestanding Class I files an application by which that it will need to be where it wants to affiliate. Then there is another date by which the whole process needs to be completed. I had an amendment on General File that moved the completion date up from January 1, '92, I believe, to July 1, '92, or something in that order so that there would be ample time to dispose of these but we kept the time when the initial application needs to be filed as it was originally in the bill, January 1, 1991. Originally I thought that and I guess part of me still thinks that there is still plenty of time to file the initial application between now and January 1, '91. They were supposed to be working in that area of getting their affiliation plans together since 940 passed. If there is a feeling that the...getting the initial application process together is going to take a little longer and that the Class I's would like to have a little more time to bring it about, I have no problem doing this. You need to realize though that as you buy time on the front end, getting the applications together, and if you don't get your application in until January 1 of '92 as this amendment would do, then there is a shorter time period for the county committees and the Class III boards and all of those to act upon these. You're buying time on the front end at the expense of the amount of time in the middle, but I have no problem with doing that. I think it's probably acceptable. I would hope most people would not wait until this very deadline if they have a complicated process, but I think it's fine. I am going to support Senator Haberman's amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Further discussion on the amendment offered by Senator Haberman? Senator Haberman, do you